DIPLOMATIC POST AS A SOURCE OF THE GENRE OF TRAVEL NOTES ABOUT THE BUKHARA KHANATE

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ABSTRACT

The article examines the diplomatic mail as a source of the genre of travel notes, and this genre as a business ambassadorial documentation is formed at the beginning of the XVII century and is defined as a literary genre replete with detailed descriptions and personal impressions of the authors and the travels of Russian people to Central Asia, which were carried out in trade and political affairs, and written evidence of these travels was created as state documentation - diplomatic mail.

Key words: travel notes, diplomatic post, Bukhara Khanate;

INTRODUCTION

The study of the genesis of the genre of travel notes allows us to highlight its national conditioning - in Russian literature, this genre took shape differently than in European. In English culture in the Age of Enlightenment, under the influence of the era of the Great Geographical Discoveries, a cult of travel arose, as a result of which the development of those literary genres took place where the author could freely express his impressions and reflections on what he saw. Idealization gave way to a rationalistic analysis of not only what he saw, but also those feelings that arose in a person. The desire to convey as accurately as possible thoughts and feelings, impressions and reflections when observing urban or rural landscapes, pictures of wildlife predetermined the rapid spread of the genres of diary, writing, travel notes, in which one of the most important elements in the narrative is the landscape. Consequently, in the English-language literature, the genre of travel notes was initially capable of transformation, easily passing from literary discourse to scientific one: ethnographic and geographical information was recorded within the framework of travel notes. But, in addition, in English travel notes there are descriptions that "include a pronounced author's subjective beginning, contain numerous lyrical and philosophical discourses about the world, man and culture of the era as a whole" ¹.

MAIN PART

It was the Englishman who wrote the most travel notes about the Bukhara Khanate: "The journey of Mr. Anthony Jenkinson from the city of Moscow in Russia to the city of Bukhara (Boghar) in Bactria in 1558, described by him for the London merchants of the Moscow company", based on the diary records that have much in common with the epistolary genre. Jenkinson became Moscow's first official representative in Central Asia, thus confirming the existence of diplomatic relations at the state level. Accordingly, his notes acquire the status of an official document deserving special attention and trust. But his notes were also of interest as a literary work. They were published in London in 1562 and were dedicated to the ruler of Wales.²

In Russian literature, there was no tradition of business writing, but there was a hagiographic genre of walking, reflecting the religious practice of pilgrimage. N.I. Prokofiev characterizes walking as "an essay genre that carried the political, moral and artistic ideas of its time". If initially walking was realized as a description of Christian attractions, then from the end of the XIV century they appear as notes of state envoys and merchants, that is, the formation of the genre of travel notes begins. It is obvious that this genre is functional in nature, that is, its features are formed depending on the purpose of the journey undertaken. If in the X-XIV

¹ Нагорнова Е.В. Пейзаж в произведениях Мэри Монтэгю: дисс. канд. филол. наук.- М., 2003. – с.15.

² Тожибаев Ш. А. Путешествие Антония Дженкинсона в Бухару (1558–1559) // Молодой учёный, 2015, № 6.

³ Прокофьев Н.И. Книга хожений: записки русских путешественников XI-XV вв. - М.: Советская Россия, 1984. - с. 5.

centuries, Russian people went on trips abroad to visit holy places, then from the 15th century trade and diplomatic ties began to strengthen. Consequently, the genre of travel notes in Russian literature is based on the tradition not so much of diary as of diplomatic literature.

Russian diplomatic relations with Bukhara emerged much later than trade. Russian merchants, at their own peril and risk, undertook trips to the Bukhara Khanate, which served as the key to the lands of India, Persia and China rich in goods. But the fate of the merchant caravans depended on the benevolence of the Bukhara Khan and the robbery on the Central Asian roads - merchant caravans were repeatedly attacked, and the Russian people - prisoners, and later slaves in the khanates and the Usman's Empire. But successful trade expeditions more than atoned for the risks, since the demand for Eastern goods was extremely high not only in Russia, but also in Europe.

The obvious benefits of trade determined England's attempts to improve relations with the Bukhara Khan. Jackson's trip took place with the support of Ivan the Terrible and showed that Bukhara, torn apart by internecine conflicts, with its unsafe roads and impoverished population, cannot act as a full-fledged trading partner⁴.

At the same time, Bukhara and Khiva merchants also showed interest in establishing trade relations with Russia: in 1557, an embassy arrived in Moscow with a request for permission to trade in Russian lands. ⁵ However, no agreement was reached, since the path through the Khiva and Bukhara khanates was not safe, and the political situation remained unstable. Therefore, to ensure mutually beneficial trade relations, it was necessary to establish strong diplomatic contacts.

But the long-term poor harvest in Russia, the change of dynasty and the unrest that followed these events postponed the establishment of diplomatic relations between Russia and Bukhara for several decades. Only in 1620 Tsar Mikhail Fedorovich sent Ivan Khokhlov's embassy to Bukhara. Sending gifts to the khan, the Russian tsar asked for the release of the Russian captives in Bukhara and made special mention of the need to release the ambassador himself and his companions on the way back. Such a request indicates that the Russian and Bukhara rulers had different concepts of diplomatic etiquette.

Khokhlov, who by that time was already an experienced diplomat, prepared official documents in detail. The ambassadorial reports included many documents, and the content of a significant part of them was strictly classified: Russian ambassadors were not supposed to show their papers to foreigners. So, the embassy of Ivan Khokhlov lost most of the papers on the way: during the attack of the Khiva robbers, the archive was hidden so securely that they could not find the secret place on the way back.

At the end of the mission, which can be considered successful, Khokhlov compiled an article list, which, in addition to business information, also contains emotional stories about the adventures that happened along the way.

Obviously, the article list about the embassy in Bukhara was written by an educated person who was familiar not only with the literature of that time, but also spoke a rich spoken language - individual elements of travel stories resemble the style of folklore works using the same system of images. The language of business literature in Russia was just beginning to form, and, despite the requirements for ambassadorial documents, the author's personality had the main influence on their content.

In addition to the article list, there is also a petition filed by the Khokhlov sovereign, where the envoy asks for compensation for losses incurred. This petition is a lengthy story about the journey - from receiving the Tsar's order to go to Bukhara in Kazan to the return of the mission accompanied by the released prisoners and the Khiva prince Avgan, who expressed a desire to enter the Russian service. Khokhlov vividly describes his misfortunes and merits, mentioning a sincere desire to serve the king in order to achieve compensation for the losses incurred. The petitioner's request was granted, and in addition to monetary compensation for losses, he also received a substantial reward.

⁴ Тожибаев Ш. А. Путешествие Антония Дженкинсона в Бухару (1558–1559) // Молодой учёный, 2015, № 6.

⁵ Цит. по: Иван Данилович Хохлов (Русский посланник в Персию и в Бухару в XVII веке) [Электронный ресурс] - http://www.vostlit.info/Texts/Dokumenty/M.Asien/XVII/1600-1620/Stat_spisok_1620/text1.htm

Obviously, the emotional component in business documents was a necessary condition that guaranteed the emissary the favor of the sovereign. Even the list of losses ("list") is not limited to a simple listing:

"Yes, how he sent the Tatars from Yurgench across the steppe to Astrakhan for beads, and that Tatars gave Ivan a horse with a saddle and a bridle, yes yapanchu, the price was 3 rubles 20 altyn, and other horses were taken from merchants. Yes, Ivan is tenacious in Bovati, 4 camels died, and he bought 5 horses in that place, and gave 27 rubles for them; yes 5 carts bought, gave 7 rubles and a half. From Bukhara, in the Jurgen land, he spent the winter and flew, and ate with people, and that he fed 4 poloneniks with horses and camels - 59 rubles and a half. And in all, for this painting, Ivan has written losses to cut stocks and oprite the one to whom the price is not written, 473 rubles. Yes stocks drowned: 30 loaves of crackers, 20 weed ham, 100 shoals of corned beef; yes in Knei 15 poods of molasses washed out; 17 he gave a bucket of wine to ransom to the Turkmens, and took it to the king Arap and the king of Bukhara in commemoration. Yes, Tsarevich Abesh of Jurgen took a gold turban from him, but the price was not written to her, because the Bukhara king gave him a turban" 6.

Such detail and emotionality of business documentation was explained not only by the interests of the envoy, but also by state necessity: an educated Khokhlov, familiar with oriental etiquette, had to make an opinion on the true attitude of the Bukhara emir to Russia based on personal impressions. Despite the fact that Khokhlov brought the liberated Russian captives and the Khiva prince, ready to swear allegiance to Moscow, for Mikhail Fedorovich the treachery of the Bukhara and Khiva khans, who did not show the Russian ambassador the due honors, became obvious. Based on the results of the embassy, it was decided to postpone the establishment of diplomatic ties.

Thus, business ambassadorial documentation was formed at the beginning of the 17th century as a literary genre replete with detailed descriptions and personal impressions of the authors.

In 1675, during the reign of Alexei Mikhailovich, the embassy of V.A. Daudova. Relations between Russia and the states of the Asian region during this period were tense due to the Russian-Turkish war. The purpose of the embassy was to free Russian prisoners, and V.A. Daudov, a Persian by birth, was better suited for this purpose than others. Several official documents have survived to clarify the composition of the embassy. The journey is described in detail in the "Interrogative speeches of the interpreter Ivan Gornov, sent from Bukhara with a formal reply to Tsar Alexei Mikhailovich from Ambassador Vasily Daudov".

The details of the journey are also reflected in the complaints that the embassy members sent to the king. It is obvious that the economic interest of the Russian envoys is growing, and Bukhara continues to act as a stronghold for establishing ties with India.

Thus, until the 17th century, the travels of Russian people to Central Asia were carried out for trade and political affairs, and the written evidence of these travels was created as state documentation. Since the language of Russian business literature had not yet developed by that time, these notes are a reflection of other written and oral genres that existed at that time in Russian discourse. These are speech folklore genres, and written genres of slander, petitions, orders, and article lists.

As already mentioned, the genre of travel notes existed at this time in European literature. And the formation of a similar genre in the Russian tradition was influenced by a European - Florio Beneveni, sent by Peter I to Bukhara as an envoy in 1718.

Beneveni was appointed secretary of a specially created Oriental Expedition, which went to Bukhara together with Ambassador Quli-bek Topchi Bashi returning from Russia. The way to the Bukhara Khanate took several years, as the embassy moved in a roundabout way - through Shemakha and Tehran.

The expedition was equipped after the death of the expeditionary detachment of Bekovich-Cherkessky in Khiva, and therefore Beneveni's mission was not only diplomatic, but also intelligence. Accordingly, the envoy sent two types of correspondence to St. Petersburg: official reports ("Relations from Bukhara") and secret correspondence.

Observations of a geographic nature at that time had a political meaning, and therefore the tsar's

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⁶ Цит. по: Иван Данилович Хохлов (Русский посланник в Персию и в Бухару в XVII веке) [Электронный ресурс] - http://www.vostlit.info/Texts/Dokumenty/M.Asien/XVII/1600-1620/Stat_spisok_1620/text1.htm

instructions ordered Beneveni "on the way, and especially in the possession of the Bukhara Khan, to notice all the places, marinas, cities and fortifications, and what waters flow into the Caspian Sea".

Writing down his observations, Beneveni pursued not so much scientific or economic interest as political, analyzing the possibility of concluding an alliance with the Bukhara and Khiva khanates. As a result, the envoy came to the conclusion that such an alliance was unprofitable for Russia, since even if the khan wanted to conclude it, the instability of the political situation and the eastern mentality cast doubt on the reliability of the agreements reached. Having come to this conclusion, Beneveni considered his task completed, but the khans for a long time prevented his return to Moscow. He arrived at the royal court only at the end of 1725, when Tsar Peter was already dead. Beneveni considered his service fulfilled, left Russia and never returned.

Returning to Italy, Beneveni wrote notes in his native language about his stay in Khiva and Bukhara, which were later translated into Russian: "A short journal of the envoy Floria Beneveni, formerly in Bukhara".

CONCLUSION

Each embassy in Bukhara was fraught with danger for Russian travelers, and therefore needed careful preparation. All available information about the climate, settlements, roads of the Bukhara Khanate, the manners and customs of its inhabitants, ceremonies taken at the khan's court were studied in detail. Consequently, every embassy that left official documentation formed a tradition of describing Central Asian travel. Each traveler who went to the khan's court supplemented the information obtained by his predecessors, reported his own observations and opinions. This is how the national tradition of travel notes dedicated to expeditions to Central Asia was formed.

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⁷ Цит. по: Джурабаев Д.Х. Исследование истории Бухарского эмирата русскими и европейскими авторами XVIII XIX вв. (краткий обзор источников // Вестник ТГУПБП, 2013, № 4 (56). – с. 211.